

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to a change in the user's context.
3. (Canceled).
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein ~~the application program comprises a document-centric application program and~~ said at least one command is displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user [[can]] is able to continue to work within [[a]] the document while said at least one command is displayed.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising after said displaying, executing a command without requiring any action from a user other than selecting the command.
6. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a software document-centric application program executed by a computer, the method comprising:
determining, at the computer, a user's context within [[an]] the document-centric application program, wherein [[a]] the user's context ~~can be~~ is determined by ascertaining a position of a user's cursor controlled by the user within a document provided by the document-centric application program and by ascertaining text portions of the document that have been

selected by the user using the user's cursor, wherein the document is a document in which the user is working; and

automatically displaying, at the computer, at least one command on a display for the user based on the user's context without obscuring the document, wherein said at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portions of the document, wherein said automatically displaying is accomplished, at least in part, using tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual expressions define conditions associated with a user's interaction with the document and which are used to ascertain when to display said at least one command, and wherein individual expressions are represented in a tree data structure having one or more children nodes, said tree structure evaluating to either true or false based at least in part upon the values of said one or more children nodes.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein said context pertains to various tasks the user may attempt to accomplish.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said context further pertains to one or more of the following: a type of the document the user is working in and a state of [[a]] the document, the user is working in.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said displaying is independent of [[a]] the user selecting any displayed menu item.

12. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

determine a user's context within ~~[[an]]~~ a document-centric application program, wherein said context is determined via a number of activities including ascertaining text portions of a document that have been selected using a cursor controlled by the user, wherein the document is a document in which the user is working;

automatically display, independent of the user selecting any displayed menu item, at least one command on a display for the user based on the user's context without obscuring the document, said at least one command being displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user ~~[[can]]~~ is able to continue to work within ~~[[a]]~~ the document provided by the application program while said at least one command is displayed, and wherein said at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portions of the document; and

automatically remove said at least one command from the user's display responsive to a change in the user's context,

wherein said automatically display and automatically remove are accomplished, at least in part, using tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual expressions define conditions associated with ~~[[a]]~~ the user's interaction with the document-centric application program and are used to ascertain when to display said at least one command, and wherein individual expressions are represented in a tree data structure which evaluates to either true or false based upon the value of one or more children nodes in the tree data structure.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer-readable media of claim 12, wherein the computer determines the user's context by ~~one or more of the following~~: ascertaining a position of ~~[[a]]~~ the user's cursor within ~~[[a]]~~ the document provided by the application program, ~~and ascertaining a user's selection within a document provided by the application program.~~

14.-35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a document-centric software application program executed by a computer, the method comprising:

determining, at the computer, a user's context within [[an]] the document-centric application program, wherein the user's context [[can]] includes text portions of a document that have been selected using a cursor controlled by the user, wherein the document is a document in which the user is working, wherein said determining is performed by evaluating at least portions of one or more expressions, each expression being associated with a context block and defining a condition that describes one or more aspects of a user's an interaction of the user with the document-centric application program, wherein individual expressions comprise tree-based visibility expressions, and wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are boolean expressions represented in a tree data structure; and

automatically displaying, at the computer, independent of [[a]] the user selecting any displayed menu item, at least one context block on a display for the user based on the user's context without obscuring the document, individual context blocks containing multiple commands that are possible selections for [[a]] the user based upon their context, wherein at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portions.

37. (Original) The method of claim 36, wherein the expressions evaluate to Boolean values.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, wherein [[a]] the user's context ~~can be~~ is affected by one or more of the following: a document type, a document state, and objects within [[a]] the document that ~~can be selected~~ are selectable by the user.

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said displaying comprises displaying a context block having a title bar area that labels the context block.

40. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the title bar area is configured to enable the context block to be toggled between expanded and collapsed states.

41. (Original) The method of claim 39, wherein the title bar area comprises a menu display button that is configured to enable a menu that is associated with the context block to be displayed.

42. (Original) The method of claim 41, wherein the menu display button is associated with a menu that contains links to one or more context panes, each context pane comprising additional context-sensitive commands.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said displaying comprises displaying a context block with a controls area that exposes the multiple commands to the user.

44. (Original) The method of claim 43, wherein a command display within the controls area is defined in HTML.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein said displaying comprises displaying said at least one context block in a modeless fashion.

46. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a software document-centric application program executed by a computer, the method comprising:

determining, at the computer, a user's context within [[an]] the document-centric application program without requiring the user to make a menu selection, wherein said context [[can]] includes text portions of a document that have been selected using a cursor controlled by the user, where the document is a document the user is working in, wherein said determining is accomplished, at least in part, using tree-based visibility expressions, wherein the individual tree-based visibility expressions define conditions that describe a user's interactions of the user with said document-centric application program, and wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are represented in a tree data structure having one or more children nodes, said tree structure evaluating to either true or false based at least in part upon the values of said one or more children nodes;

based on the user's context, displaying, at the computer on a display, commands that are associated with the context and ~~which can~~ that are able to assist the user in accomplishing a task, wherein the commands do not obscure the document; and

while the commands are being displayed, enabling, with the computer, the user to select and apply various commands to the selected text portions multiple times.

47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46 further comprising applying one or more selected commands[[,]] when selected by [[a]] the user, without further user interaction.

48. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said displaying comprises displaying the commands responsive to the user selecting from a menu that is supported by an automatically-appearing and disappearing context block that contains context-sensitive commands.

49. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said displaying comprises displaying the commands in a modeless manner.

50. (Original) The method of claim 46, wherein said displaying comprises displaying the commands within a context pane having a title bar that labels the context pane and a controls area that exposes the commands to the user.

51. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the context pane is not collapsible.

52. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the context pane must be closed by the user.

53. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the user must request the context pane to be displayed.

54. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein some of the commands in the controls area ~~can be~~ are context-sensitive and are disabled if they are out of context.

55. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 50, wherein the context pane includes a context-sensitive help feature that displays help information that is contextually related to [[a]] the context pane.

56. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein the help feature is accessible via an icon on the title bar.

57. (Original) The method of claim 55, wherein the help feature is displayed in a modeless manner.

58. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein multiple context panes are stackable in a queue.

59. (Currently Amended) One or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform ~~implement~~ the method of claim 46.

60.-68. (Cancelled).

69. (Currently Amended) An electronic computing system comprising:
a single document-centric application program configured to provide:
a single navigable window that contains a document that a user is working in;
~~multiple different~~ a plurality of functionalities to which the single navigable window can be navigated by [[a]] the user; and
at least one context-sensitive command area that is associated with the single navigable window and that does not obscure the document, the single document-centric application program being configured to automatically change command sets that are presented to the user within the command area as the user navigates to different ones of

the functionalities, at least some commands of the command sets being displayable independent of the user selecting any displayed menu item and as a function of one or more tree-based visibility expressions that define conditions that describe ~~a user's~~ interactions of the user with the single document-centric application program,

wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are boolean expressions represented in a tree data structure,

wherein said interactions include text portions of the document that have been selected using a cursor controlled by the user, and

wherein at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portions of the document.

70. (Original) The computing system of claim 69, wherein the single application program is configured to provide navigation instrumentalities associated with the single navigable window, the navigation instrumentalities being configured for use by the user to navigate the single window to the different functionalities.

71. (Currently Amended) The computing system of claim 70, wherein one of the navigation instrumentalities comprises links associated with each of the multiple different functionalities ~~to which the single navigable window can be navigated.~~

72. (Currently Amended) The computing system of claim 70, wherein one of the navigation instrumentalities comprises browser-like navigation buttons that ~~can be used~~ are usable, in connection with the navigation model, to navigate the single navigable window between the different functionalities.

73. (Original) The computing system of claim 69, wherein the multiple different functionalities comprise document-centric functionalities.

74. (Currently Amended) An electronic computing system comprising:

a processing unit; and
a single document-centric application program embodied on a computer-readable medium, the single document-centric application, when executed at the processing unit, cause the processing unit being configured to:

display, on a display device, a single navigable window for a user to use in navigating between multiple different functionalities ~~that can be~~ provided by the single application program;

provide at least one context-sensitive command area that is associated with the single navigable window and that does not obscure a document presented in the navigable window, the single document-centric application program automatically changing command sets that are presented to the user within the command area as the user navigates to different functionalities, at least some commands of the command sets being displayable independent of the user selecting any displayed menu item and as a function of one or more tree-based visibility expressions that define conditions that describe ~~a user's~~ interactions of the user with the single document-centric application program,

wherein the individual tree-based visibility expressions are boolean expressions represented in a tree data structure,

wherein said interactions include text portions of the document ~~that can be~~ selected using a cursor controlled by the user, and

wherein at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portions of the document; and

incorporate different functionalities in an extensible manner so that the user [[can]] is able to use the single navigable window to navigate to the different incorporated functionalities.

75. (Currently Amended) The computing system of claim 74, wherein the single application program is configured to cause the processing unit to provide navigation instrumentalities

associated with the single navigable window, the navigation instrumentalities being configured for use by the user to navigate the single window to the different functionalities.

76. (Original) The computing system of claim 75, wherein one of the navigation instrumentalities comprises links associated with each of the multiple different functionalities to which the single navigable window can be navigated.

77. (Original) The computing system of claim 75, wherein one of the navigation instrumentalities comprises browser-like navigation buttons that can be used to navigate the single navigable window between different functionalities.

78. (Currently Amended) A computing method comprising:
displaying, on a display device, a user interface that comprises a single navigable window that ~~can be~~ is capable of being navigated between multiple different functionalities that are provided by a single document-centric application program;

receiving, at a computer, user input that indicates selection of a particular one of the functionalities; ~~functionality~~;

responsive to receiving said user input, navigating, at the computer, the single navigable window to the particular selected functionality and displaying in said window indicia of said functionality that ~~[[can]]~~ enables a user to accomplish a task associated with the particular selected functionality;

determining, at the computer, a user's context of the user within the selected functionality, wherein said context ~~[[can]]~~ includes a number of activities including whether one or more text portions of a document have been selected using a cursor controlled by the user, where the document is a document the user is working in, wherein said determining is performed by using one or more tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual tree-based expressions define conditions associated with ~~a user's~~ interaction of the user with said selected functionality, and wherein the individual tree-based visibility expressions are boolean expressions represented in a tree data structure; and

automatically displaying, at the computer on the display device without obscuring the document, at least one command for the user based on the user's context independent of the user selecting any displayed menu item, wherein said at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the one or more selected text portions of the document.

79. (Currently Amended) The computing method of claim 78, further comprising automatically removing, at the computer, said at least one command from the display responsive to change in the user's context.

80. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a document-centric software application program, the method comprising:

determining, at the computer, a user's context within [[an]] the document-centric application program by ascertaining a user's selection by the user within a document provided by the document-centric application program, wherein said selection [[can]] comprises a plurality of selection activities including text portions of the document that have been selected using a cursor controlled by the user, said determining further being performed by using one or more tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual expressions define conditions associated with a user's interaction of the user with said document, and wherein individual tree-based visibility expressions are represented in a tree data structure which evaluates to either true or false based upon the value of one or more children nodes in the tree data structure; and

automatically displaying, at the computer on a display device, at least one command on a display for the user based on the user's context without obscuring the document, wherein said at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portions of the document.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80 further comprising automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to a change in the user's context.

82. (Canceled).

83. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 80, wherein ~~the application program comprises a document-centric application program and~~ said at least one command is displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user can continue to work within ~~[[a]]~~ the document while said at least one command is displayed.

84. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 80 further comprising after said displaying, executing a command without requiring any action from ~~[[a]]~~ the user other than selecting the command.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 80, wherein said context pertains to various tasks the user may attempt to accomplish.

86. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 80, wherein said context further pertains to one or more of the following: a type of the document ~~the user is working in~~ and a state of ~~[[a]]~~ the document, ~~the user is working in.~~

87. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 80, wherein said displaying is independent of ~~[[a]]~~ the user selecting any displayed menu item.

88. (Currently Amended) A method of exposing commands in a ~~software~~ document-centric application program comprising:

determining, at a computer executing the document-centric application program, a user's context within ~~[[an]]~~ the document-centric application program, wherein said context includes whether or not a user has selected a text portion of a document using a cursor controlled by the user, wherein said determining is performed by using, at least in part, one or more tree-based visibility expressions, wherein individual expressions define conditions associated with ~~an user's~~ interaction of of the user with the document-centric application program, and wherein the

individual expressions are represented in a tree data structure having one or more children nodes, said tree structure evaluating to either true or false based at least in part upon the values of said one or more children nodes; and

automatically displaying, at the computer, at least one command on a display device for the user based on the user's context without obscuring the document, independent of [[a]] the user selecting any displayed menu item, wherein said at least one command is selectable by the user to perform an action on the selected text portion of the document.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88 further comprising automatically removing said at least one command from the display responsive to a change in the user's context.

90. (Canceled).

91. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 88, wherein ~~the application program comprises a document-centric application program and~~ said at least one command is displayed in a modeless fashion in which the user can continue to work within [[a]] the document while said at least one command is displayed.

92. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 88 further comprising after said displaying, executing a command without requiring any action from [[a]] the user other than selecting the command.

93. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88, wherein said context pertains to various tasks the user may attempt to accomplish.

94. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 88, wherein said context pertains to one or more of the following: a type of the document ~~the user is working in~~ and a state of [[a]] the document, ~~the user is working in~~.

95. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, wherein each individual expression is represented in a different tree data structure.